

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00966 160953Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W
-----161226Z 108749 /12
R 160920Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9210
USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS LIBREVILLE 0966

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BDIS, BEXP, GB
SUBJ: GOG REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE RE DISPUTE WITH US
FIRM

1. MINISTRY OF FINANCE CONTACTED EMBASSY FOR ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING US FIRM RE DISPUTE OVER TAX QUESTIONS IN EFFORT TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING ISSUE AT WORKING LEVEL. COMPANY IS ZAPATA NORTH SEA, INC., 1701 HOUSTON CLUB BUILDING, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002, WHICH SIGNED CONTRACT WITH ELF SPAFE IN JUNE 1972 FOR OFFSHORE DRILLING SERVICES. APPARENTLY ZAPATA AND OTHER SIMILAR US FIRMS HAD NOT SATISFIED GOG TAX REQUIREMENTS; ACCORDING TO MINFINANCE OFFICIAL ALL HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY AND AMICABLY REGULARIZED SITUATION EXCEPT ZAPATA. OFFICIAL WILLING TO ATTRIBUTE DIFFICULTIES TO MISUNDERSTANDING AND LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF SYSTEM USED IN GABON AND OTHER FRANCOPHONE COUNTRIES. REGISTERED LETTERS WERE SENT TO ZAPATA IN AUGUST 1976 AND AGAIN IN DECEMBER 1976, YET NO REPLY THUS FAR RECEIVED ALTHOUGH RECEIPT OF BOTH LETTERS WAS CONFIRMED.

2. MINFINANCE OFFICIAL WISHES TO RESOLVE QUESTION QUIETLY AND WOULD APPRECIATE ANY POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE IN CONTACTING ZAPATA TO REQUEST THAT REPLY BE SENT TO LETTERS FROM GOG. AMOUNT IN QUESTION IS APPROXIMATELY 102 MILLION CFA OR US DOLS 408,000. CORRESPONDENCE
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SHOULD BE SENT TO M. RIBE, DIRECTION GENERALE DES CONTRIBUTIONS DIRECTES ET INDIRECTES, B.P. 37, LIBREVILLE, GABON, OR BY TELEX 5238 IN CARE OF MINISTRY OF FINANCE.

3. ZAPATA UNKNOWN TO EMBASSY AND MAY NO LONGER BE IN EXISTENCE. RIBE BELIEVES COMPANY HAS HEAD OFFICES IN

PANAMA AND MAY ALSO BE OPERATING IN TRINIDAD IN PARTNER-SHIP WITH COMEX MARINE SERVICES, 2000C GOVERNOR'S CIRCLE, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77018, TELEPHONE 713-682-1681.

5. ANY HELP YOU COULD GIVE IN LOCATING ZAPATA AND URGING RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL TO RESPOND TO LETTERS FROM GOG WOULD BE APPRECIATED.STEIGMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LIBREV00966
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770133-0212
Format: TEL
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770450/aaaabrew.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a0e6cba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2787248
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOG REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE RE DISPUTE WITH US FIRM
TAGS: BDIS, BEXP, GB
To: STATE COM
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a0e6cba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
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